

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1, 3, 7-8, 11, and 14-18 are now in the application.

Claims 1, 3, 8, 11, and 14-15 have been amended. Claims 16-18 have been added.

In item 3 on pages 2-4 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 1, 8, and 11 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Luser et al. (US Pat. No. 5,907,999) in view of Lachajewski (US Pat. No. 6,142,078) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In item 4 on pages 4-6 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 6, 14, and 15 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Luser et al. in view of Lachajewski and Bradford et al. (US Pat. No. 2,971,461) under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

In item 5 on pages 6-8 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 3, 7, 9-10, and 12-13 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Luser et al. in view of Lachajewski and further in view of Bradford et al. under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

The rejections have been noted and claims 1 and 14 have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention

of the instant application. Support for the changes is found on page 12, lines 9-10 of the specification.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 1 calls for, inter alia:

adjusting a quantity of ink as a function of a printing speed, and including, upon the occurrence of a change in the printing speed, making a change in the quantity of ink as a function of an area coverage to be printed averaged over several of the inking zones. (Emphasis added.)

Claim 14 calls for, inter alia:

a control device for adjusting a contact length of said ductor roller on said ink duct roller as a function of printing speed, said control device being connected to a memory having stored therein values for an ink stripe length as a function of the printing speed and an area coverage to be printed averaged over several inking zones, said control device serving for adjusting the ink stripe length as a function of the printing speed and the area coverage to be printed averaged over several of the inking zones. (Emphasis added.)

According to amended claims 1 and 14 of the instant application, an area coverage averaged over several or all inking zones is used to control the quantity of the ink. This feature allows for a simple embodiment, which does not require sophisticated controlling equipment. None of the cited references teaches this feature of averaging the area coverage over several or all inking zones.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1 and 14. Claims 1 and 14 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claims 1 or 14, they are believed to be patentable as well. Claims 6, 9-10, and 12-13 have been cancelled.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 3, 7-8, 11, and 14-18 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out. In the alternative, the entry of the amendment is requested as it is believed to place the application in better condition for appeal, without requiring extension of the field of search.

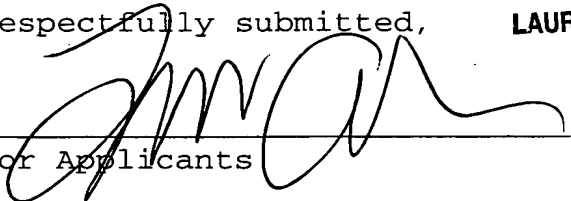
If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to 37 CFR Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to

Applic. No.: 10/016,871  
Amdt. Dated February 25, 2004  
Reply to Office action of December 1, 2003

the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-  
1099.

Respectfully submitted,

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YC

February 25, 2004

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